



SWADLINGOTE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

MALCOLM ALLAN

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of the

Senior Public Health Inspector

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY

D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 1

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

MALCOLM ALLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer
(Also Inspector under the Shops Act)

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health

Inspector P. R. BRAMLEY, M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Clerk MR. R. J. LAKIN

Junior Clerk and

Pupil Public Health Inspector MR. D. T. JONES
(To 30th September, 1961).

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Up to April, 1962)

Chairman : MR. C. Shipton

Vice-Chairman : MRS. M. E. HARDY

Councillors : W. LORD, J. C. MOULSON, J. W. MILLER, W. FLOWERS,
W. H. WHITEHEAD, J. W. BRIGGS, E. C. CLAMP, T. H. EDWARDS,
W. HEAPE, J. STRETTON, REV. S. CRAWFORD, W. BREALEY, J.P.,
G. C. HOLMES, A. J. HOUGH, F. A. TRAVIS.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CLINIC

Swadlincote — Alexandra Road

Ante-natal Clinics :

2nd and 4th Tuesdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Doctor attends each session.

Child Guidance :

By appointment.

Dental Treatment :

Temporarily unstaffed.

Eye Clinics :

By appointment, 2nd alternate and every 4th Thursday in each month, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Infant Welfare Centre :

Every Monday, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Minor Ailment Clinics :

Mondays 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Doctor present.

Orthopaedic Clinics :

By appointment. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4. pm.

Speech Therapy :

Temporarily unstaffed.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination :

2nd, 4th and 5th Saturday morning by appointment.

Immunisation against Diphtheria :

Facilities for immunisation are available on request, when the Doctor is in attendance at Infant Welfare Centre and Minor Ailment Clinics.

Repairs or replacement of glasses for school children :

The necessary form may be obtained on request from the Principal School Medical Officer, County Offices, Matlock, Derbyshire, or from the School Medical Officers.

CHEST CLINICS

Burton-on-Trent :

Chest Clinic,
Outwoods Hospital,
Belvedere Road,
Burton-on-Trent.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor, Monday and Wednesday 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Fridays 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Contacts alternate Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. B.C.G. Vaccination alternate Fridays 11 a.m.

Derby :

The Chest Clinic,
Green Lane,
Derby.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays: (Contacts) 10 a.m. to 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

WELFARE FOODS DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

County Clinic,
Alexandra Road,
Swadlincote.

Monday, Tuesday and Friday,
9.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m.
to 5 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 noon

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1961.

The year was an epidemic one for Measles which occurs every two years from the large re-accumulation of susceptibles in the intervening relatively free period. Our outbreak was, of course, part of the national epidemic and there were 149 notified cases of Measles in the District as compared with 11 in 1960. The disease, as is customary now, was mild, not a single case was admitted to Hospital, and there were no deaths.

This year again there were no notified cases of Diphtheria and the District has now been clear since 1947. There was some concern in the Public Health Department of the neighbouring District, for which I am responsible, in February when I was notified that an employee living outside the District, but employed in a local Power Station, was a nasal carrier of virulent diphtheria organisms. Investigations were made in co-operation with a neighbouring Authority and it became fairly obvious that the infection had probably originated in a nearby County Borough where there had been cases of Diphtheria. I felt sure that this was the link up and that there was no focus of infection in the District, and this view was supported by the complete freedom from any further trouble during the rest of the year.

The Minister of Health, Mr. Enoch Powell, authorised on Tuesday, 24th October, 1961, the use of oral polio vaccine—Sabin vaccine named after Dr. Albert B. Sabin, Distinguished Service Professor of Research Paediatrics, University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A., who developed it as a protection against Polio. The use of the vaccine in Hull was to control an outbreak of polio and was regarded by the Ministry of Health as an emergency operation and quite different from routine immunisation and was based on the principle of the ‘displacement’ effect of live vaccines or, as some call it, the eradication concept put forward mainly by Russian workers and involves mass feeding of a weak virus to the whole population in a very short time. In Hull 302,000 were vaccinated in two days.

Under the new method, the individual will receive a mixture of the three well-known types of live polio virus in three doses taken at four to eight weekly intervals. The vaccine can be taken in syrup, in candy sweets or on a lump of sugar. Not only does

the living vaccine prevent the individual taking polio, but it also confers a local resistance in the bowel and prevents the carrier state.

Polio vaccine by mouth is no new thing—it was first fed to man on the 27th February, 1950 and has been used in a number of countries, and up to present there have been 90 million doses given without any complications. It is cheap to produce and can be stored at -20°C . for at least three years; the live vaccine used in Hull had been in deep freeze since the beginning of 1961.

A single feed of a large dose containing the three types will most probably be developed in the near future. The effectiveness now of this three dose live vaccine will be a reduction of polio six to ten fold.

Oral polio vaccine offers the greatest possibility of completely eliminating polio-virus as a human disease producer, provided proper safeguards are taken in its manufacture and careful surveillance of the community is maintained.

The Polio Vaccination scheme is under the control of the Derbyshire County Council and is administered directly by Dr. Morgan, County Medical Officer of Health.

The Death Returns show that there were only two deaths in the District from respiratory or other types of Tuberculosis during the year. As evidence of the tremendous changes which have taken place, in 1921 over 1,100 children under five years in England and Wales died from abdominal Tuberculosis from infected cows' milk drunk in the raw state, but now the deaths are eight per annum, or less. This vast improvement has been brought about mostly by the Eradication Scheme of Bovine Tuberculosis which, on 1st October, 1960, made it possible to declare the whole of Great Britain an attested area. And again in the Urban District two cases of Tuberculosis were notified this year but fifteen in 1951.

At the end of the year there were importations of Smallpox from Karachi, East Pakistan, to various parts of the country outwith the Urban District and repercussions of these events will be best dealt with in my Annual Report for 1962.

The provisional death rates for all forms of Cancer in England and Wales were 2,392 per million of the population for males and 1,951 for females, both slightly up on the 1960 figures. The rate for males included an increase from 856 million population in 1960 to 871 in 1961 for deaths assigned to cancer of the lung. The corresponding figures for women were 132 in 1960 and 141 in 1961. The rate for other forms of cancer decreased in both sexes. In males 36 per cent of cancer deaths were attributable to cancer of the lung, and women 7 per cent.

I think almost more than enough has been said about Lung Cancer. The basic facts are not in any doubt, but many and varied have been the interpretations of these facts, yet none of the interpretations or explanations fits all the facts as well as the obvious one that cigarette smoking is a cause of lung cancer. In round figures for England and Wales there were 22,800 deaths from cancer of the lung in 1961, an increase of almost 800 over the 1960 figure.

For 1961 the Lung Cancer death rates are again higher for both men and women and the utmost endeavour must be made to save the heavy cigarette smoker from injuring himself, but more essential perhaps the young people protected from the insidious cigarette advertising angled to youth.

The adult who smokes cigarettes heavily must balance these risks against the pleasure he derives from smoking and make his choice, but he has a special responsibility because of the effect that his choice has upon the young people with whom he comes into social and vocational contact.

Important as is the problem of Lung Cancer, it should not blind us to that other and, in some ways, much greater problem of alcoholism for the treatment of which the National Health Service has a very considerable responsibility and preventive medicine a personal and social problem immensely difficult to solve. Various estimates of the extent of the problem have been made and it would appear that there are about 500,000 alcoholics in Britain, or one per cent of the population. The alcoholics are not people who become hopelessly and helplessly drunk and fall down in the gutter. There is considerably less obvious drunkenness today. The present pattern of alcoholism seems to be inability to stop. The unfortunate people continue to drink with progressively disastrous results without necessarily showing signs of intoxication. They are not self-indulgent, but ordinary people who turned to alcohol when in trouble. The heavy cigarette smoker who becomes a lung cancer victim kills himself and causes sorrow and maybe hardship to others but for a comparatively short time in comparison to the alcoholic who, it is estimated, affects at least four other people over years and years causing constant fear, worry, anxiety and deep regret at seeing a loved one changed into a useless and undesirable member of the community.

Our National Health Service can help, and much valuable assistance is given by such organisations as the Carter Foundation and Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Preface to the Annual Report was written in 1962, actually shortly after Lieutenant-Commander Scott Carpenter orbited the earth three times in his Aurora 7 space craft, and after all the

recent achievements the question now is not whether men will get to the moon or to Mars, but when? All this gives further point to the comments by the Chairman of the Health Congress held just after Easter 1961 when he forecast in his address that the time is not far off when the Congress would include a Section on space health, dealing amongst other things with interplanetary problems of epidemiology. Moreover, he suggested that the introduction of bacteria to new planets might have the salutary aspect of making their surfaces capable of producing vegetation. Man must indeed reach out to the moon, the planets and beyond, but at the same time he must reach down to the slums, the pail closets, the polluted wells and rivers and do there not such a spectacular job, but one infinitely rewarding in the increased sum total of human health and happiness.

Fortunately, these problems are not so great in the Urban District as in the densely populated areas, but the Council, by going forward steadily with new housing, Standard Grants, (I hope these will increase), new high grade water supplies and many other improvements, is making an enormous contribution to the general health of the people of the Urban District.

Within the Report there is a list of County Council Clinics for which I am indebted to Dr. Morgan, County Medical Officer of Health.

It is a pleasure to me to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council, Clerk to the Council, General Practitioners, Health Visitors, Heads of Departments and Staffs, particularly of course, all the Staff of the Public Health Department, especially the Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

MALCOLM ALLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Area of District in Acres (inclusive of water)	..	3,754
Number of inhabited houses	.. ..	6,181
Sum represented by a penny rate	.. ..	£725
Rateable Value	.. ..	£184,901
Population (Census) 1931	.. ..	20,604
Population (Census) 1951	.. ..	20,909
Population Registrar General's Estimate 1961	..	19,360

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Legitimate	272	151	121	(Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the
Illegitimate	10	4	6	estimated resident population.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	Crude 14.56
	282	155	127	Corrected 14.41

Still Births

Legitimate	7	4	3	(Rate per 1,000 live and still Births 24.82
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Deaths—

(All ages)	271	158	113	(Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.
				Crude 13.89
				Corrected 16.25

In ascertaining the corrected rates the following comparability factors were used).

Births 0.99

Deaths 1.17

DEATHS FROM PUPERAL CAUSES (HEADING THIRTY OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST)

Deaths

Pregnancy, childbirth, ..	Rate per 1,000 (live and still)
abortion .. Nil. ..	births Nil.

Deaths of Infants under one year *M.* *F.*

Legitimate	7	6
Illegitimate	—	—

Death rate of infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	46.09
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	47.42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Deaths of Infants under four weeks

Legitimate	11
Illegitimate	—

Death rate of Infants under four weeks of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	39.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	40.44
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
Deaths from Measles (All ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under two years)	Nil.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING YEAR 1961

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases Admitted to Hospital</i>
Measles	149	—
Lobar Pneumonia	4	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—
Dysentery	—	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—
Typhoid Fever	1	1

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE AT VARYING AGES

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Age group</i>															<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>
	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	6—	7—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	60—			
Measles ..	7	14	20	15	17	35	34	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	149	
Lobar Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4	
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	

TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Number of cases notified during 1961	2	—	—	—	2
Number of cases on Register 31st December, 1960 ..	89	47	25	23	184

Typhoid Fever

This patient was a man aged 28 years who flew into London Airport from Tehran via Athens and Rome on 11th June, 1961. Shortly before he left he had been an in-patient in a hospital in Tehran for bronchitis and pneumonia but after investigations, including those for Typhoid fever he was considered fit to travel to England. He was so ill on arrival that a wheeled-chair was required to take him from the plane to customs and to go through he required the support of two attendants. A private car brought him to Swadlincote and the next day he was admitted to Derwent Hospital where he spent nearly twenty weeks before discharge to another part of the country. The facts were reported to the Ministry of Health who passed the information to the Medical Officer in charge of Health Control at London Airport.

SCABIES TREATMENT

There were no cases of Scabies treated at the Clinic during the year.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>All Ages</i>			<i>Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system ..	1	—	1	·05
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	1	·05
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1	·05
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	1	—	1	·05
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	—	7	·35
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ..	6	—	6	·30
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3	3	·15
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasm	15	9	24	1·20
Leukaemia Aleukeamia	2	—	2	·10
Diabetes	—	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions of nervous system ..	18	20	38	1·90
Coronary disease angina	29	19	48	2·40
Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5	·25
Other heart diseases	12	21	33	1·65
Other circulatory disease	8	3	11	·55
Influenza	3	1	4	·20
Pneumonia	3	3	6	·30
Bronchitis	17	7	24	1·20
Other diseases of Respiratory system ..	3	—	3	·15
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1	·05
Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—	3	·15
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	2	5	·25
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	15	17	32	1·60
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	4	·20
All other accidents	5	1	6	·30
Suicide	2	—	2	·10
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—

WATER SUPPLY

The Council are responsible for the distribution of water, obtained in bulk from the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board, to the Urban Area, the supply being derived from the Bunter Sand-stone measures to the south of Milton Village, and treated at the Board's works at Milton. Water is also now being obtained through the River Dove Water Board from their works at Melbourne.

Difficulties in the distribution of water to certain parts of the District continue to exist due to mining subsidence, and I am informed by Mr. J. W. May, M.I. Mun.E., M. Inst. H.E. the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, that it was necessary to carry out repairs to 34 broken mains, 32 drawn joints and 98 broken services to premises during the year.

Bacteriological sampling of the water as distributed from the Milton Water Works is done fortnightly. Chemical samples are also submitted for analysis at fairly frequent intervals. The health department also obtain samples regularly from various points in the Urban Area to check against results obtained from each supply.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1961

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with pleasure that I submit the Annual Report covering the work of the Department for the year ended 31st December, 1961.

The year ended with the closing of two slaughterhouses leaving seven to be licenced as from the 1st January, 1962, which was the "Appointed Day" fixed by the Minister. Work required to bring these permits up to the necessary standard was virtually completed with the exception of a few minor details. Slaughtering facilities continued during the alterations and a 100% inspection was maintained.

Steady progress continued in the rehousing of families displaced from unfit houses, but with the need for provision of more accommodation for old people new building in the future needs to be stepped up in order to maintain continuity of the slum clearance programme. It is also apparent that an extension of the programme, to include houses which are fast showing signs of deterioration, will have to be considered, while at the same time greater publicity should be given to the need for landlords to avail themselves of the benefits of the Improvement Grant Scheme as a measure to avoid more and more houses falling into the "slum" category.

In a district where the manufacture of sanitary ware is one of the staple industries the attainment of "Clean Air" remains a problem which cannot be readily solved. Although many of the pottery firms have installed gas or electric kilns the salt glazing process is one which at the moment, cannot be easily controlled. This, together with the domestic problem in a mining district, makes one feel rather despondent when considering any effective measures for improving the atmosphere.

I would like to accord my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their continued help and support throughout the year, also to the Medical Officer of Health, Clerk to the Council and other colleagues for the valuable assistance they have so generously rendered, and last but not least my sincere thanks to the staff of the Department for the excellent manner in which they carried out their duties.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. H. BRADBURY.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

HOUSING

Building Programme

The number of new Houses erected during the year were as follows :—

(i)	By the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	43
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	..	Nil.
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	..	..	..	..	35

Housing Programme

Houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	46
Houses closed	..	..	..	..	..	1
Demolition Orders made during the year	..	..	..	..	..	32
Closing Orders made during the year	..	..	..	..	..	5
Families rehoused from unfit houses	..	..	..	..	..	17
Clearance Areas declared	..	..	..	..	..	3
Swadlincote (No.1) (Wellwood Road, Newhall) Clearance Area, 1961.						
Swadlincote (No.2) (High Street, Newhall) Clearance Area, 1961.						
Swadlincote (No.3) (Church Street, Newhall) Clearance Area, 1961.						

HOUSING

The year has seen the demolition of a further 46 unfit dwellings and at the present rate of progress the original ten year slum clearance programme will be completed on schedule. No doubt there will be several more houses requiring demolition but at least the obviously unfit dwellings will have disappeared within the next few years. Will that see the end of slum clearance in the District?

A considerable number of houses in Swadlincote are of a type built between fifty and one hundred years ago. A few of these are still substantial properties worthy of improvement. The remainder fall into no well defined category. Legally it would be difficult to regard them as unfit but by any modern standard they are not satisfactory houses.

For the well-built houses lacking modern amenities, the solution is comparatively simple. They can be improved easily and cheaply.

The problem is that so many houses of this age are not well built and have structural faults making the consideration of improvements a doubtful economic prospect. At a very rough estimate these houses form approximately one third the total houses in the District. What is to be the fate of them?

At the time of writing the Ministry has called for a large increase in the number of houses improved by means of grant aid.

A big increase is needed since the number improved so far has been a rather pathetic 170 odd. There has too, been a hint that the answer will be sought to these “problem houses”. It will be interesting to see what the solution is to be.

RENT ACT, 1957

The following is a summary of the work involved in connection with the above mentioned Act.

Visits to premises	3
Applications for Certificates of disrepair.	2
Certificates issued	1
Undertakings given by Landlord (Form K)	1
Application for cancellation of certificate of disrepair..	Nil.
Certificates cancelled	Nil.
Number of certificates remaining in force	38

COMPLAINTS

684 complaints were received during the year relating to 703 items which are tabulated below.

<i>Complaints</i>						<i>Total complaints investigated</i>
Chinmey Stack	..	..	..	..	..	7
House roof	..	..	..	..	..	8
Eaves, Gutters and rain water pipes	..	..	..	..	..	6
Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	11
Ceiling Plaster	..	..	..	..	..	4
Windows	..	..	..	..	..	8
Floors	..	..	..	..	..	4
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	6
Fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dangerous walls	..	..	..	..	..	1
Water supply	..	..	..	..	..	13
Water in cellars	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dirty conditions	..	..	..	..	..	3
Water closet:—						
cistern	..	..	..	..	..	11
joints defective	..	..	..	..	..	12
water supply	..	..	..	..	..	4
Drainage:—						
obstructions	..	..	..	..	..	56
drain defective	..	..	..	..	..	11
Mining subsidence	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	126
Refuse accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	3
Animals, improper keeping:—						
Dogs, Cats, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	7
Infestations:—						
Rats	..	..	..	..	..	212
Mice	..	..	..	..	..	39
Ants	..	..	..	..	..	62
Woodworm	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cockroaches	..	..	..	..	..	27
Flies	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wasps	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fleas	..	..	..	..	..	2
Disinfestations requested	..	..	..	..	..	1
Domestic smoke nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	9
Offensive smells	..	..	..	..	..	25
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	11
Colliery spoilbank	..	..	..	..	..	1
						703

DEFECTS REMEDIED

Chimney stacks—overhauled	..	..	..	7
House roof—repaired	..	..	..	9
Eaves Gutters provided or repaired	..	..		13
Rainwater fallpipes—renewed, repaired and cleaned	..	..	..	3
Perished pointing	..	..	..	11
Ceiling Plaster	..	..	..	12
Wall Plaster	..	..	..	24
Floors repaired	..	..	..	14
Stairs	..	..	..	1
Windows:—				
Frames repaired	..	..	..	8
Frames renewed	..	..	..	6
Sash cords renewed	..	..	..	2
Doors repaired	..	..	..	12
Cooking Ranges:—				
Repaired	..	..	..	3
Fireplaces repaired	..	..	..	10
Fireplaces renewed	..	..	..	3
Sinks and Washbasins	..	..	..	1
Sink waste pipes renewed	..	..	..	1
Washboilers:—				
Brickwork repaired	..	..	..	6
Water Supply	..	..	..	1
Water Closets:—				
Water supply	..	..	..	1
Pans renewed	..	..	..	1
Flushing cisterns renewed	..	..	..	10
Seats renewed	..	..	..	1
Defective joints	..	..	..	2
Compartments repaired	..	..	..	1
Drainage:—				
Drains repaired	..	..	..	45
Drains relayed	..	..	..	4
Yard gullies renewed	..	..	..	4
Obstructions removed	..	..	..	114
Yard paving repaired	..	..	..	4
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	278
Colliery Spoilbank	..	..	..	1
				<hr/>
				613
				<hr/>

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND RESULTANT ACTION

The following information is compiled in tabular form and is in fact a summary of work undertaken in the department during 1961.

(A) Housing

Visits under the Housing Acts	..	..	..	601
Visits under the Public Health Acts	..	..	969	

(B) General

Subsidence	..	..	..	..	..	214
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	252
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	4
Verminous Premises and Articles				..	..	22
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	1
Keeping of Animals		..	..	..	..	9
Water Supplies and Water sampling				..	..	31
Infectious Diseases		..	..	..	..	2
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	1,991
Pest Destruction	..	..	..	..	..	3,242
Caravans and Caravan Sites				..	..	19
Dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	263
Drain Testing and inspection				..	..	271
Hairdressers	..	..	..	..	..	12
Smoke Observation		..	..	..	..	52

(C) Interviews

Complainants	..	..	..	..	..	181
Housing Applicants		..	..	..	..	555
Owners	..	..	..	..	..	168
Contractor	..	..	..	..	..	44

		<i>Informal Notices Outstanding Jan. 1961</i>	<i>Formal Notices Outstanding Jan. 1961</i>
(D)	Number of Notices Served		
	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	45	—
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	12	—
	Factories Act, 1937	2	—
	Clean Air Act, 1956	—	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	—	—
	Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 ..	—	—
		<i>Informal Notices Served</i>	<i>Formal Notices Served</i>
(E)	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	204	15
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	31	—
	Factories Act, 1937	7	—
	Clean Air Act, 1956	6	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	—	—
	Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 ..	—	—
(F)	Number of Notices complied with (including notices outstanding from 1960)		
	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	192	11
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	30	—
	Factories Act, 1937	4	—
	Clean Air Act, 1956	6	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	—	—
	Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 ..	—	—

DRAINAGE WORKS

During the year 271 visits to premises were made in connection with drainage work.

The service provided by the Council for clearing the drains of privately owned property is now under the Public Health Department and during the year 114 obstructions were dealt with. Work of repair to drains has been largely of a minor nature, 53 repairs have been carried out

REFUSE RECEPTACLES

Dustbins provided up to 31st December, 1961

			<i>Total</i>	<i>By Council</i>	<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Tenant</i>
January	..		31	28	3	—
February	..		22	22	—	—
March	..	..	24	24	—	—
April	..	..	28	20	8	—
May	..	..	13	13	—	—
June	..	..	31	30	1	—
July	..	..	11	11	—	—
August	..		25	21	4	—
September	..		18	18	—	—
October	..		21	21	—	—
November	..		17	17	—	—
December	..		37	37	—	—
			<hr/> 278	<hr/> 262	<hr/> 16	<hr/> —
1961	..	..	278	262	16	—
1960	..	..	331	308	18	5
1959	..	..	265	228	34	3
1958	..	..	310	271	20	19
1957	..	..	338	323	12	3
1956	..	..	322	315	1	6
1955	..	..	396	329	44	23
1954	..	..	326	273	35	18
1953	..	..	168	159	5	4
1952	..	..	190	151	20	19
1951	..	..	153	115	22	16
1950	..	..	328	215	84	29
			<hr/> 3,405	<hr/> 2,949	<hr/> 311	<hr/> 145

WATER SUPPLY

Representative samples of piped towns water supply were submitted for examination during 1961. The table on this page gives a summary of the results.

	<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bateriological</i>	
	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>
Swadlincote and Ashbys Joint Water Board ..	1	—	5	3

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Summarised below are the recordings for 1961 of the deposit gauge and lead peroxide candle.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall (inches)</i>	<i>Total Solids (tons per square mile)</i>	<i>Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) (Mg. per 100 sq. cms. Batch A. PbO₂ per day)</i>
January	2.67	16.54	2.71
February	2.05	13.22	2.93
March	0.17	11.78	2.36
April	3.37	16.81	1.87
May	0.72	11.85	1.40
June	1.05	12.15	1.22
July	2.88	15.57	1.12
August	2.33	12.22	1.41
September	1.46	12.62	2.51
October	2.44	13.42	3.05
November	1.32	10.30	2.47
December	2.84	19.80	2.80

CLEAN AIR

‘Smoke affects health, creates dirt and drudgery and wastes fuel. It blackens and it corrodes. And it is costly.’

So says a leaflet published by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government—and so say all of us! There are very few people who would disagree with the statement.

However, do we agree with this truth to the extent that we are prepared to do anything about it?

Smoke is part of our environment and accepted as such. I doubt if most people ever give it a thought except, perhaps, when their neighbour’s chimney is being a nuisance. Few people have any conscious desire to be rid of smoke in the atmosphere.

Fortunately some people in the Country, and the number is growing year by year, think differently. These people do not merely hold noble sentiments but are showing their beliefs by actions; they are in the van of the drive to create smoke-free zones; they believe smoke to be an evil thing; they are “Smoke Conscious”.

Are we, as a local authority and a community “Smoke Conscious”? Do we think of smoke as an evil thing and not a necessary concomitant of everyday life which must be endured? Do we regard clean air as equally desirable as say, clean food or clean streets?

Clearly, sentiment is not enough. It would cost money and cause some slight inconvenience to everyone but in the long run would save money and time. If we want clean air we must work to obtain it.

Do we really want clean air? I have heard it said by people, from some of whom one would have expected a more enlightened approach, that the air of this District is clean enough—the ‘what was good enough for our fathers is good enough for us’ attitude. These people have not the interests of the Community at heart. To them, I would say ‘observe’. Observe not only the occasional burst of smoke from a factory chimney but also the pall and drift of domestic smoke which lies so often across our District and observe the statistical evidence. Our air may not be heavily polluted, but do not be deluded in thinking it clean.

To adopt a more positive attitude, I would like to see two things.

Firstly, a declaration by the Council of their belief in the aims of the Clean Air Act and of their desire and intention of making the whole District smokeless, as far as practicable, within a specified time, together with a definite proposal for the preparation of a pilot scheme which will lead to the first smoke control area.

Secondly, a continuous programme of publicity and propaganda designed to make the general public and ourselves more keenly aware of the dangers of smoke and of the fact that it is not an inevitable adjunct to everyday life.

DISINFESTATION

As will be seen by reference to the summary of complaints, cockroaches and ants are the cause of greatest annoyance as far as insect infestation is concerned. The majority of these are dealt with by the free issue of insect powder but where real difficulty is encountered treatments are carried out by this Department. Ants and cockroaches are not easily dealt with under any circumstance and I doubt whether in many cases the issue of powder brings these infestations under effective control but time does not allow of a treatment in every case. At present we must rely upon people doing the work themselves and hope that they do as thorough a job as they are able.

Stanton tip continues as a source of trouble in nearby houses due to house flies breeding in the refuse. Control measures have so far been disappointing and short of a complete review of disposal methods, I see little prospect of any radical change in the position.

Compared with the year 1960, there was a substantial increase in the number of rats. In that year, 281 properies were found infested and involved 161 treatments by the Rodent Operator. In this year under review, there were 470 properties found to be infested and where 217 treatments were carried out. The figures quoted include mice infestations but these form only a small proportion of the total and have varied very little from the previous year.

On the basis of bodies recovered there has been an increase of over 15% in the rat population. This increase is not peculiar to Swadlincote as, I understand, many other Districts experienced a big increase in rats especially toward the end of the year.

In providing a free service to domestic property, not only does the resident benefit, but the Department too. Not only do residents get a free, quick and efficient service, but also we, by being quickly made aware of infestations, can treat with a minimum of effort. An extension of the free service to cover every type of premise would, I am sure, be justified.

Where difficulty is experienced most in controlling rats is in those areas and pockets of waste land, which are all too numerous in the District. Here the ground is rough, usually overgrown with weeds and brambles and used by all and sundry as a convenient place for dumping unwanted rubbish. Such places make ideal homes for rats, there is nearly always a resident population, and control is very difficult to say the least. The regulation of these sites would be not only a sanitary but also an aesthetic improvement to the District.

SUMMARY OF RODENT OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES, 1961

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises Inspected</i>	<i>No. of Properties Infested</i>		<i>No. of Treatments</i>	<i>No. of Bodies Recovered</i>		<i>Estimated Kill</i>	
		<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>		<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Local Authority Property (other than properties at which permanent points are established)	12	12	—	29	415	34	1139	162
Dwelling Houses	502	429	14	177				
Agricultural Property	—	—	—	—				
All other Property (including Business Premises)	271	11	4	11				
Total ..	785	452	18	217	415	34	1139	162

TREATMENT OF SEWERS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Total No. of Manholes</i>	<i>No. Baited</i>	<i>Manholes showing takes</i>		<i>Total No. of takes</i>	<i>Poison used</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
			<i>Complete</i>	<i>Partial</i>			
October, 1955 ..	563	413	59	46	105	Zinc Phosphide	
November, 1956 ..	563	422	80	22	102	Zinc Phosphide	
July, 1957 ..	584	397	108	101	209	Zinc Phosphide	
February, 1958 ..	585	326	73	29	102	Zinc Phosphide	
November, 1958 ..	585	52	3	13	16	Warfarin 5	(Newhall only).
March, 1959 ..	563	32	—	—	4	—	(Test bait)
May, 1959 ..	563	38	7	—	7	Warfarin 5	
November, 1959 ..	563	123	6	7	13	Warfarin 5	
December, 1960 ..	563	41	5	4	9	Warfarin 5	
June, 1961 ..	563	41	10	9	19	Warfarin 5	

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Register of Food Premises

The following table supplies information on the number and types of food premises in the Urban District.

<i>Types of Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bakehouses	6
Butchers' Shops (Including making up premises) ..	27
Cafe's Restaurants and Canteens	15
Fried Fish and Chip Shops and Wet Fish Shops ..	15
Greengrocers	11
Grocers and General Stores (excluding Off-Licences)	77
Corn Merchants	5
Licensed Premises	53
Off-Licences including those selling General Goods	30
Confectioners	10
Mineral Water Manufacturers	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Slaughterhouses	7
	<hr/>
	259
	<hr/>

Inspection of Food Premises

The following table is included as an indication of amount of work involved in routine inspection of food premises during the year.

Bakehouses	29
Ice Cream Manufacturers	44
Market Stalls	98
Mineral Water Manufacturers	6
General Food Premises	302
Cafe's, Canteens (including works canteens) ..	60
Slaughterhouses	1080
Fried Fish and Chip Shops (including wet fish) ..	52
Butchers' Shops including making up premises ..	320
	<hr/>
	1,991
	<hr/>

FOOD HYGIENE

With only a very few exceptions the standard of food hygiene is not high.

Nearly all the food premises in the District have been adapted from dwelling houses or were built when the needs of a village community only had to be met. They are badly designed and often of unsatisfactory structure. The size of businesses and amount of stock carried have increased to such an extent as to make cleanliness and order very difficult. These are difficulties for which allowances must be made but are not an excuse for laxity.

Food handling is careless and sometimes downright slovenly; thorough routine cleansing goes by default; hands are washed very unfrequently; bin lids are left off and refuse spills over yards attracting flies which in turn are tolerated like undesirable acquaintances. These things are seen around the back of the counter; the customer sees only a facade. It is a grim picture but not an untrue one. It has nothing to do with the age or type of premises.

I do not offer any ready solutions to improve matters as there are none. Prosecutions of offences is of some value and must be resorted to at times if only to make people realize their responsibilities but to be of lasting effect this course must be pursued with persistence and vigour. Results will be obtained no doubt, but only in the form of imposed standards.

To be of permanent value standards must be ones to which people are trained to accept as normal. Education plays the biggest part and I would like to see more effort and money going in this direction. Not in the occasional poster erected in some inconspicuous place but a planned, continuous campaign aimed at those concerned—and that includes everybody. Children in particular need to have before them the sort of standards which they will appreciate and accept in later life, and here too there is lots of scope for health education work not only in food hygiene but in all fields.

Unsound Food

The following is an abbreviated list of items of food found to be unfit for human consumption during 1961 followed by a summary of the estimated weight of all condemnations of unfit food during each of the last five years.

118 lbs.	Cooked Ham
46 lbs.	Corned Beef
112 tins	Tomatoes

5 tins	Milk
4	Pies
1 pkt.	Fish Fingers
142 tins	Fruit
17 lbs.	Sausages
8 lbs.	Brisket Beef
25 tins	Vegetables
9 tins	Soup
1 pkt.	Sago
7 tins	Coffee
39 jars	Jam
10 lbs.	Chopped Pork
60 lbs.	Jellied Veal
10 tins	Stewed Steak
24 lbs.	Luncheon Meat
1 tin	Cream
1 pkt.	Shortcake
5 lbs	Currants
3 tins	Pilchards
2 tins	Spaghetti
36 lbs.	Cheese
60 pkts.	Marshmallows
14 tins	Salmon

The approximate weight of food condemned during recent years is as follows :—

(a)	1961	..	7 cwts.
(b)	1960	..	13 cwts.
(c)	1959	..	8 cwts.
(d)	1958	..	12 cwts.
(e)	1957	..	13 cwts.

Summary of animals slaughtered, inspected and incidence of disease found.

		<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	..	873	30	23	2,024	1,557	—
Number Inspected	..	873	30	23	2,024	1,557	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci whole carcasses condemned		—	—	—	—	2	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	..	70	—	—	17	55	—
Total	..	70	—	—	17	57	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	.. ..	8.01	—	—	.83	3.65	—
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses con- demned	.. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		1	—	—	—	16	—
Total	..	2	—	—	—	16	—
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis		.114	—	—	—	1.02	—
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	3	—	—	—	—	—
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and Totally condemned	..	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT INSPECTION

I have little to comment on as far as meat inspection is concerned.

The quality of meat killed remains high and as the tables show there is little requiring condemnation.

Inspection has been maintained at 100% and, thanks to the co-operation of butchers in holding over meat requiring inspection, it has been possible to do this without the necessity of too much overtime.

Slaughterhouse premises for the most part are now up to a more modern standard and it is hoped that in time practices too will be simimilarly improved.

In general there is need for improved techniques to produce cleaner meat from a bacteriological standpoint. To do this the butcher must have those sources and vehicles of bacterial contamination constantly in mind and adapt his practices accordingly. There is much that will be strange at first but here the Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations can help him as compliance will give him the right approach.

Summary of disease found and parts of animals affected

TUBERCULOSIS				<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Bovines.	Carcase Meat	..	..	4	—	20	—
	Organs	..	..	—	1	10	—
Pigs.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	1	—	9	—
Calves.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	—	—	—
				5	2	11	—
OTHER DISEASES							
Bovines.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	7	—	12	—
Pigs.	Carcase Meat	..	..	2	1	23	—
	Organs	..	..	1	1	23	6
Sheep.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	1	2	—
Calves.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	—	—	—
				11	1	4	6

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT

One premise is registered under the provisions of Section 2 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act.

ICE CREAM

Details of Register, 31st December, 1961.

Registered for Manufacture only	..	..	..	..	..	2
Registered for sale only	..	..	..	..	..	107

Changes in Register, 1961.

			<i>Amendments</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Removed from List</i>
Number for Manufacture and sale	..	..	—	—	—
Number for sale only	..	..	3	3	—

Bacteriological Analysis

Eighteen samples of Ice Cream and Ice Lollies were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination with the following results.

The grades given to Ice Cream samples are based on the time taken to reduce Methylene Blue in the Laboratory. Grades one and two are considered to be satisfactory.

				<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Not done</i>
				1	2	3	4	
ICE CREAM	Local Manufacture	..	11	3	—	—	—	1
	Other	.. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
LOLLIES (Water Ices)	.. ..	..	1	—	—	—	—	—

SHOPS ACT

The following is the result of the annual survey of Shops.

Summary of types of Shops in the Urban Area

	<i>Swadlin- cote</i>	<i>Newhall</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Total</i>
Off Licences only	2	3	2	7
Off Licences and General Stores	11	3	9	23
Grocery and General Stores ..	32	26	19	77
Greengrocers and Florists ..	4	3	4	11
Butchers	14	7	6	27
Wet Fish only	1	—	—	1
Fried Fish and Chips	6	2	6	14
Confectioner and Tobacconists..	8	—	2	10
Cafes	3	—	1	4
Corn Merchants	3	1	1	5
Newsagents and Stationers ..	4	2	2	8
Shoes	3	—	1	4
Shoe Repairs	3	2	2	7
Drapers, Outfitters and Millinery	16	2	9	27
Hairdressers	14	5	4	23
Jewellers and Watch Repairs ..	2	—	—	2
China, Crockery, Leather Goods and Toys	4	—	1	5
Hardware and Ironmongery ..	7	1	2	10
Radio, Electric, Cycle and Motor Spares	17	6	4	27
Dry Cleaners	2	—	1	3
Builders and Decorators Supplies	5	1	2	8
Entertainment	1	—	—	1
Second Hand Goods	1	—	—	1
Firewood and Paraffin Dealers ..	1	—	—	1
Furniture	4	—	—	4
Multiple Stores	1	—	—	1
Seeds and Nurseryman	4	—	—	4
Commission Agents	3	1	1	5
Chemists	3	1	1	5
Photographic Materials	3	—	—	3
Wines and Spirits	1	—	—	1
Licenced Premises	24	17	12	53
Garages etc.	8	2	1	11
	215	85	93	393

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Register

The following table is a copy of the register of the factories in operation in the Urban Area :—

				<i>Swadlin-</i> <i>cote</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Newhall</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pipe Works	..	..	..	2	2	1	5
Brick Works	..	..	..	2	1	—	3
Potteries	..	..	..	3	4	—	7
Flint Mill	..	..	..	—	1	—	1
Engineers	..	..	..	5	4	1	10
Iron Foundry and Pattern Makers				1	—	—	1
Rubber Manufacturers	..	..		1	—	—	1
Automobile Repair		..	..	12	1	4	17
Waste Paper Baling		..	..	1	—	—	1
Joiners	..	..	..	4	3	1	8
Crate Manufacturers		..	..	1	—	—	1
Firewood Dealers		..	..	1	—	—	1
Plumbers	..	..	..	—	—	2	2
Upholsters		..	..	2	—	—	2
Cycle Repairs and Radio			..	5	2	—	7
Printing	..	..	..	2	—	—	2
Boot Repairs	..	..	..	2	1	—	3
Tailoring	..	..	..	1	1	—	2
Watch Repairs	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Entertainment	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
Food Preparation		..	..	4	3	4	11
Bakeries	..	..	..	2	3	1	6
Ice Cream Manufacturers		..		2	—	—	2
Mineral Water Manufacturers	..			2	—	—	2
Building Operations		..	..	—	—	—	5
				57	26	14	—
Outworkers	..	..	..	—	2	—	2

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part 1 of the Act

Inspection for the purpose of provisions as to Health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 to be enforced by Local Authorities.	11	24	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	86	225	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	7	3	—	—
	<u>104</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>

	<i>Found</i>	<i>R'died</i>	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found</i>		<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outworkers) ..	—	—	—	—	—
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>

OUTWORKERS (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Number of Outworkers in August list required by Sections 111 (1) (c)</i>
Wearing apparel, making, etc. ..	2

